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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/870,480	06/01/2001	Kouki Fukui	2001_0681A	1037

513 7590 12/06/2005

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EXAMINER

AUGHENBAUGH, WALTER

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1772

DATE MAILED: 12/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/870,480

Applicant(s)

FUKUI, KOUKI

Examiner

Walter B. Aughenbaugh

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 September 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 15-42, 44, 45 and 47-53 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 15-42, 44, 45 and 47-53 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Acknowledgement of Applicant's Amendments***

1. New claims 48-53 presented in the Amendment filed September 16, 2005 have been received and considered by Examiner.

### ***REPEATED REJECTIONS***

2. The 35 U.S.C. 102 rejection made of record in paragraph 5 of the previous Office Action mailed June 15, 2005 has been repeated for the reasons previously made of record.
3. The 35 U.S.C. 103 rejection made of record in paragraph 6 of the previous Office Action mailed June 15, 2005 has been repeated for the reasons previously made of record.
4. The 35 U.S.C. 103 rejection made of record in paragraph 7 of the previous Office Action mailed June 15, 2005 has been repeated for the reasons previously made of record.

### ***NEW REJECTIONS***

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

5. Claim 49 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 49 recites the limitation "said bonding agent" in the third line of the claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

6. Claims 48-53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fukui et al.

In regard to claim 48, outer layer, item 4, of Fukui et al. meets the limitations regarding the bonding agent, and the relationship between the bonding agent and each adjacent pair of turns. In regard to claim 49, outer layer, item 4, of Fukui et al. meets the limitations regarding the

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noncombustible joint member, and the relationship between the bonding agent and each adjacent pair of turns. In regard to claim 50, outer layer, item 4, of Fukui et al. meets the limitations regarding the noncombustible joint member and the bonding agent, and the relationship between the noncombustible joint member and the bonding agent and each adjacent pair of turns. In regard to claims 51-53, the turns of Fukui et al. meet the limitations of the turns as claimed.

### ***Response to Arguments***

7. Applicant's arguments regarding the 35 U.S.C. 102 rejection made of record in paragraph 5 of the previous Office Action mailed June 15, 2005 have been fully considered but are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Fukui et al. does not teach a noncombustible duct, but since Fukui et al. teach that the duct comprises a heat insulating layer (col. 3, lines 59-66), a noncombustible duct falls within the scope of the teachings of Fukui et al. Applicant's arguments in the first three paragraphs of page 13 of the Amendment filed September 16, 2005 regarding the 35 U.S.C. 102 rejection of claims 15, 22 and 31 are moot because Parrott et al. and Berdan, II are not relied upon in a rejection of claims 15, 22 and 31.

8. Applicant's arguments regarding new claims 48-53 are moot due to the 35 U.S.C. 102 rejection of claims 48-53 made of record in this Office Action.

### ***Conclusion***

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO**

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MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

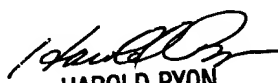
10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Walter B. Aughenbaugh whose telephone number is 571-272-1488. While the examiner sets his work schedule under the Increased Flexitime Policy, he can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:45am to 5:15pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Harold Pyon, can be reached on 571-272-1498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is to 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Walter B. Aughenbaugh

11/28/05 WBA

  
HAROLD PYON  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
1772 11/28/05